

jurisdiction of the Atlanta, Baltimore, Helena, and Washington District Offices; and the Boise, Charlotte, Charleston, Indianapolis, Milwaukee, and Norfolk Suboffices must mail the Form N-400, Application for Naturalization directly to the following addresses:

(1) The Form N-400, Application for Naturalization, currently filed with the Service's Atlanta District Office and the Charlotte and Charleston Suboffices must be mailed directly to the Texas Service Center at the following address: USINS Texas Service Center, Attention: N-400 Unit, P.O. Box 851204, Mesquite, Texas 75185-1204.

(2) The Form N-400, Application for Naturalization, currently filed with the Service's Baltimore and Washington District Offices and the Norfolk Suboffice must be mailed directly to the Vermont Service Center at the following address: USINS Vermont Service Center, Attention: N-400 Unit, 75 Lower Weldon Street, St. Albans, Vermont 05479-0001.

(3) The Form N-400, Application for Naturalization for persons residing within the jurisdiction of the Helena District Office, and the Boise, Indianapolis, and Milwaukee Suboffices must be mailed directly to the following address: USINS Nebraska Service Center, Attention: N-400 Unit, P.O. Box 87400, Lincoln, Nebraska 68508-7400.

Transition

During the first 60 days following the effective date of this notice, the Atlanta, Baltimore, Helena and Washington District Offices and the Boise, Charlotte, Charleston, Indianapolis, Milwaukee, and Norfolk Suboffices will forward in a timely fashion to the appropriate service center any Form N-400, Application for Naturalization, which has been inadvertently filed with the respective district or suboffice. Applicants will be provided a notice at the time of filing at the district or suboffice advising them that their application is being forwarded to a service center for initial processing. The applicant will receive written notification from their respective district or suboffice of the date, place, and time of their interview for naturalization. When applications are forwarded from the district or suboffices, they will be receipted and filed when they arrive at the service center. After the 60-day transition period, applicants attempting to file Form N-400, Application for Naturalization, at the offices listed above will be directed to mail their application directly to the appropriate service center for processing.

Dated: December 31, 1997.

Doris Meissner,

Commissioner, Immigration and Naturalization Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Immigration and Naturalization Service

[INS No. 1894-97]

Expansion of the Direct Mail Program for the Anchorage, Detroit, and Seattle District Offices and the Spokane and Yakima Suboffices; Form N-400

AGENCY: Immigration and Naturalization Service, Justice.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS or Service) is expanding its Direct Mail Program to include the Anchorage, Detroit, and Seattle District Offices and the Spokane and Yakima Suboffices on the current list of direct mail sites for filing form N-400, Application for Naturalization.

Applicants residing within these districts and suboffices will mail their Form N-400 directly to the designated INS service center for processing. This expansion is intended to improve INS service to the public by reducing processing times for Form N-400, limiting in-person visits to local offices, and improving the quality of case status information provided to the public.

DATES: This notice is effective January 12, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Susan Arroyo, Adjudications Officer, Immigration and Naturalization Service, Office of Naturalization Operations, 801 I Street, NW., Room 935E, Washington, DC 20536, telephone, (202) 514-8247.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Under the INS Direct Mail Program, certain applicants and petitioners for immigration benefits mail directly the Form N-400 to an INS service center for processing instead of submitting them to a local office. The purposes and strategy of the Direct Mail Program has been discussed in detail in previous rulemaking and notices (see, e.g., 59 FR 33903 and 59 FR 33985).

The Service is continuing expansion of the Direct Mail Program as applied to Form N-400 by adding the Anchorage, Detroit, and Seattle District Offices and the Spokane and Yakima Suboffices as Direct Mail sites.

Where to File

Effective January 12, 1998, applicants residing within the jurisdiction of the Anchorage, Detroit, and Seattle District Offices and the Spokane and Yakima Suboffices must mail the Form N-400, Application for Naturalization, directly to the following addresses: USINS Nebraska Service Center, Attention: N-400 Unit, P.O. Box 87400, Lincoln, Nebraska 68508-7400.

Transition

During the first 60 days following the effective date of this notice, the Anchorage, Detroit and Seattle District Offices and the Spokane and Yakima Suboffices will forward in a timely fashion to the Nebraska Service Center any Form N-400, Application for Naturalization, which has been inadvertently filed with the respective district or suboffice. Applicants will be provided a notice at the time of filing at the district or suboffice advising them that their application is being forwarded to the service center for initial processing. The applicant will receive written notification from their respective district or suboffice of the date, place, and time of their interview for naturalization. When applications are forwarded from the district or suboffices, they will be receipted and filed when they arrive at the service center. After the 60-day transition period, applicants attempting to file Form N-400, Application for Naturalization, at the offices listed above will be directed to mail their application directly to the Nebraska Service Center for processing.

Dated: December 31, 1997.

Doris Meissner,

Commissioner, Immigration and Naturalization Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Immigration and Naturalization Service

[INS No. 1884-97]

Expansion of the Direct Mail Program for the Denver, Kansas City, Portland, Oregon, and St. Paul District Offices and the Salt Lake City and St. Louis Suboffices; Form N-400

AGENCY: Immigration and Naturalization Service, Justice.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS or Service) is expanding its Direct Mail Program to